

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NAKURU

THE HANSARD

Third Assembly (Third Session)

Tuesday, 2ND July 2024

Assembly Building

The House Met At 10:05 am

[The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): in the Chair].

PRAYER

PAPER(S)

MEDIUM TERM DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PAPER 2024

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): There is a Paper to be laid by the Chairperson Committee on Budget and Appropriations.

Hon. Alex Mbugua: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I wish to lay a Paper from the Committee on Budget and Appropriations on the Nakuru County Medium Term Debt Management Strategy Paper 2024. I lay the Paper.

NOTICE(S) OF MOTION

MEDIUM TERM DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PAPER 2024

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): There is Notice of Motion to be given by the Honorable Chairperson Committee on Budget and Appropriations.

Hon. Alex Mbugua: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. Pursuant to the provision 123 of the Public Finance Management Act 2012, I rise to give a Notice of Motion THAT this House adopts the Report of the Committee on Budget and Appropriations on the Nakuru County Medium Term Debt Management Strategy Paper 2024. Thank you Mr. Speaker, I give the Notice of Motion.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you.

MOTION

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VISIT TO NEISUIT HEALTH CENTRE

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): There is a Motion by the Chairperson Committee on Health.

Hon. Njuguna Mwaura: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I rise to move a Motion THAT this House adopts the Report of Health Committee on the visit to Neisuit Hospital.

The Committee on its mandate as per the Standing Orders, we visited the Neisuit Hospital on 24th May 2023.

Objectives of The Visit

1. To assess the status of the Neisuit Health Center.
2. To ascertain the quality of services offered to the members of the public
3. To establish achievements made, challenges and areas of improvement on service delivery.

Background Information and Committee's Observations during the Visit to Nessuit Health Centre

Nessuit Health Centre is located in Nessuit Ward, Njoro Sub County in Nakuru County. The facility was officially opened in 1950 as a dispensary under the forest services. It was later improved to a Level Three Health Centre. The facility lies on a 4.5 acres piece of land; it also has another 9 acres currently under cultivation but has a controversy on ownership. Despite having a large area of operation, a larger proportion of the land is put on cultivation by the management of the facility. There is alleged encroachment of land since there is a member of the community who resides within the premises who claims to own the land. The facility however has no ownership documents/ no title deed.

Services and Patients Served At Nessuit Health Centre

The facility offers services such as Curative services, TB Services, HIV Services, Pharmacy Services, Child Welfare Clinic (CWC), Labour and Delivery Services, Ante Natal Clinic (ANC), Post Natal Clinic and Family Planning Services.

The Health Centre serves approximately 100 outpatients with 25 to 50 deliveries done per month. It was noted that the deliveries vary on the various seasons during the year.

The major cases reported in the facility include Urinary Tract Infection, Typhoid, Diarrhea, Pneumonia and TB.

Mr. Speaker, the service delivery in the facility is extremely poor and I would wish that the Members note that. It is worth noting that by the time the Committee visited at around 11.20 am, the Nursing Officer Mr. Henry Njoroge and the Lab Technician were not in office, whereas patients had been in the facility from 8:00am.

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Mr. Speaker sir, I want to put a lot of emphasis there so that respective Members from the different areas of representation can be making follow ups about the operations of their facilities because by that time we were headed to Nessuit, we were from Njoro facility and it was around 9 am and I can tell you the members of the public from Njoro had already received medical services. When we went to Nessuit, there were no medics. Nobody was there to attend to the patients and therefore, this calls for the Members from different Wards to be vigilant and to be on the look out to see whether their facilities are opened on time, whether there are people to attend to the members of the public, and if concerns are raised, we will be able to follow up and come up with proper mechanisms of making sure we supervise whatever the Executive is offering us.

Mr. Speaker, there still exist an incomplete Maternity Ward under construction that was started in November, 2022 and the project was funded by World Bank through the County Government.

There are three wooden toilets in the facility which are in poor condition and are used to cater for both staff and patients. There is also a person who resides within the compound of the facility and he uses the same washrooms which compromises everything.

Mr. Speaker, the hygiene levels in the facility and the toilets are appalling. This is one of the most dilapidated facility that I have ever visited as a Member of this Assembly.

The facility is poorly organised as there is no flow on how the patients get assistance. The place where the Waiting Area located is too cold thus patients prefer to wait in the scorching sun. The structures in the facility are outdated and dilapidated. The services offered are free of charge. However, the drugs are insufficient.

Mr. Speaker, there is a Laboratory in the facility which is not adequately equipped making the patients seek services from private hospitals around. It was alarming and we thought of it that the Nursing Officer who was in charge, when he realised that we were around, he came running. I thought he was in one of his private facility around there and therefore, this Report when it will reach the other side, we want a proper response as a House as far as this facility is concerned.

In conclusion Mr. Speaker, the facility has no ambulance thus relies on one from Njoro Sub County Hospital in case of emergencies.

There is a Service Charter in this Report, and Members can see the kind of services that are offered there and also the time that members of the public are supposed to wait which is ironical because if we had arrived at 11:20 am and waiting patients were there by 8 am, then the Service Charter does not serve the purpose and it needs to be changed.

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Staff Establishment

The facility has a current staff establishment of 12 staff. These are permanent, contractual and casual staff.

S/N	STAFF CADRES	NO OF STAFF
1	Clinical Officer	2
2	Nurses	8
3	Lab Technician	1
4	Support Staff	1

Mr. Speaker, it is worth noting that the Officer In-Charge seems unbothered with the services offered to the patients. He is not concerned about the absenteeism of his colleagues because he also comes late to the Health Centre. The Health Centre has a shortage of staff and the equipment are not sufficient for it to function fully.

Consultation Room

Mr. Speaker, the facility has a Consultation Room, and I can tell you the kind of the room we saw there was not good and it bothered us to believe that a facility that was established in 1950 still holds the kind of the status that we saw.

The facility has a very small Consultation Room which doubles up as an Injection Room, Examination Room and Procedure Room for outpatient. The patients have to wait in the scorching sun as they are slowly attended to by one nurse.

Mr. Speaker, there are few procedures done in the Consultation Room due to staffing problem. TB and HIV testing is also done in that small room. The room's ceiling is in bad shape and hygiene is not up to date.

Mr. Speaker, from the photos, you can see the kind of rooms that we have there. The Consultation Room is a very tiny cubicle that made us wonder whether we are still in Devolution era where things should be done in appropriate manner and where facilities should be offering therapeutic environment even without being attended to; one is supposed to be cured by the environment of the facility but things are different there.

Child Welfare Clinic

Mr. Speaker, the Child Welfare Clinic is in the same building as the Maternal, Child and Health, and the Delivery Room which is the first building from the Health Centre gate. The room has a horizontally wooden height, measuring instrument and an electric weight measure for the baby. Records are also kept in this room. It also serves as a Waiting Room and immunization is also done in the same room.

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Maternal Child Health (MCH)

The facility has a Maternity Ward where they receive Post Natal Care and support for mothers and their newborns. The Maternity Room has a 4-bed capacity. The facility has around 25 to 50 deliveries monthly, while emergencies and delicate cases are referred to Njoro Sub-County Hospital. When we say that they are being referred to Njoro Sub-County Hospital, unless the ongoing construction gets completed, the status of services offered by Njoro Referral do not commensurate the status of that facility.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, we request that as we pass this Report, we consider pushing the Executive to complete Njoro facility so that it can be a hub for that region because currently, if my mother will be referred to Njoro, definitely they will run to Provincial General Hospital because Njoro facility is not in a proper status of accommodating those referrals that are expected to come from all over Njoro Sub-County.

Delivery Room

Mr. Speaker, the Delivery Room in a hospital is where childbirth takes place, providing a safe and controlled environment for labour, delivery, and immediate medical care for the newborn. The facility has one delivery bed in the delivery room. There is one incubator and no resuscitator.

In the photo, you can see the Delivery Room and also the bathroom that they have there.

Laboratory Room

Mr. Speaker, the Laboratory is quite small and is wooden. It is where they do medical examinations to the reagent or rather the samples carried out from the patients to diagnose what is affecting them.

Mr. Speaker, you can see the kind of Laboratory they have and I wonder where in this era we have such facilities. Therefore, something ought to be done there.

Committee's Findings

During the visit, the Committee made the following findings;

1. The facility has insufficient supply of drugs.
2. The facility lacks an ambulance and emergencies are responded by the ambulance from Njoro Sub-County Hospital.
3. Nessuit Health Centre faces staff shortage especially lack of a Pharmacist.
4. There is laxity in service delivery where the Nursing Officer In-Charge, Mr. Henry Njoroge was not in by 11.20 am. The day that we visited, this one Njoroge was not in that facility and therefore, we want the Department to do something about it.
5. Although the Maternity operates on a 24-hour schedule, there are few equipment to facilitate the high number of births.

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6. Nessuit Health Centre has no ownership document. That is why anybody can come and start residing within the County land. Therefore, I request this House to implore the Lands Committee to go to that facility immediately and determine what an outsider is doing in our facility, as we also wait for the other side that is the Executive, to also give us the proper locus standi of that facility about ownership of that land.
7. Although the hospital has a large portion of land, it is underutilized.
8. The facility lacks a good Laboratory and proper Laboratory Equipment.
9. The toilets are in extremely poor condition and are few in number.
10. The facility has insufficient supply of water.
11. The Staff Quarters do not have toilets.
12. The hospital was allocated Kshs 2 Million for Installation of a Perimeter wall and Kshs 2 Million for Renovation and Equipping of the Outpatient Hospital Block in the Budget Estimates for the Financial Year 2023/2024 from the Nessuit Ward Kitty.
13. The facility has outdated and dilapidated structures.
14. The rooms are not well ventilated and they are extremely cold.
15. There is a new Maternity structure under construction

Committee Recommendations

The Committee made the following recommendations:

1. THAT, the County Government of Nakuru should work in collaboration with KEMSA to ensure timely and sufficient supply of drugs. When we came up with that recommendation, if you look at our budget, what we give to the Department and what we usually find on the ground does not commensurate. Therefore, I also request the Implementation Committee to be vigilant on these matters of budget implementation together with the Budget Committee so that they see whether whatever we have been passing as a House is landing where *mwananchi* is because to some extent, this outcry of lack of drugs is so rampant. We wonder whether we should increase the amount or what we are supposed to do so to have our facilities sorted and we be assured that once we appropriate the monies for drugs, we have enough drugs and the right drugs.

However Mr. Speaker, the issues with KEMSA, when they are asked to deliver drugs to a facility, they deliver whatever they have. Therefore, we would wish not only to implore the Executive but also the Council of Governors and the Senate to reign on this matter with the Ministry of Health so that things can change so that KEMSA can restructure itself.

Therefore, I would wish whatever we are able to do within our means, let us do it as we look forward to engaging other stakeholders so that this animal we call KEMSA can do its work properly.

2. THAT the County Government of Nakuru should allocate more resources in the Financial Year 2024/2025 for:
 - a) Recruitment of staff such as a Pharmacist.
 - b) Improve the Laboratory and other infrastructure of the facility.
 - c) Equipping the facility with at least one other delivery bed and Post-Natal Ward beds.
3. THAT the Department of Health should work in collaboration with the Department of Lands, Housing and Physical Planning to fast track on the issue of the facility title deed. It is bad when a citizen goes to a facility and claims that he owns that land. How I wish that the Lands Committee can take this matter urgently and head there so that we can have sanity in that facility.
4. THAT the Department of Health Services should improve the health standards of the facility.
5. THAT the facility management should set a separate room for the Health Records.
6. THAT the Department of Health in collaboration with the Department of Environment should plant more trees at the facility.
7. THAT the Department of Health should undertake close monitoring of the facility to enhance effective service delivery.
8. THAT the facility management should innovate ways of utilizing the facility's land to generate revenue for the facility.
9. THAT the facility management and the Department of Health should monitor/ supervise the construction of the new maternity to be completed as per the contract period.

Mr. Speaker sir, I beg to request this House to adopt this Report and also to make sure that relevant Committees do their work of follow ups so that whatever we recommend, we can see the fruits. Let us not labour in vain; the Health Committee's work is to go to the ground, come up with findings but those findings lack follow ups.

Mr. Speaker, I request relevant Committees to take these matters into their hands and do the necessary so that we can salvage the status of our Health Facility across the County.

I beg to request Honorable Chair for Budget Committee to second.

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Hon. Alex Mbugua: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I wish to also give my own contribution but at this juncture, I wish to second the Report. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you. The Motion is that this House adopts the Report of the Committee on Health Services on the visit to Nessuit Health Center on 24th May 2023 that was laid on the table of the Assembly on Tuesday 20th February 2024 during the morning sitting. The Motion is open for Debate.

Honorable Member for Lakeview Ward.

Hon. Alex Mbugua: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I am a Member of this Committee on Health and first, I wish to give my appreciation to our Chairperson Committee on Health, Hon. Njuguna from Elburgon Ward because of his leadership in this Committee.

Mr. Speaker, indeed, we have had time to visit various Institutions under his leadership and most of these Institutions that we visit are not in good condition ...

SHARON

Hon. Alex Mbugua: ... the Report you have just listened to or has just been tabled should be taken seriously by all people in charge of health matters in the County. At the Hospital in Nessuit, the staff share a toilet with patients, and they are not in good condition. The toilets are wooden, and I do not know which century we had wooden toilets in our Republic. I would like to ask the area Members of County Assembly to do something for these people.

Mr. Speaker, we have been told in the Report that Hospitals receive many Urinary Tract Infections (UTI). When you get a UTI, one of the things that facilitates that is poor hygiene and more so in the latrines and the toilets that we have. If this is the case and we do not have toilet Facilities that can contain and curb such conditions, then we are headed to an extremely dangerous situation as a County, more so for the people of that area.

Mr. Speaker, the Facility has no land ownership Document and I wish to get a Report on how many title deeds we possess as a County for all the Facilities that the County Government of Nakuru owns because there is a Department that went to slumber land, and that is the Department of Lands.

Mr. Speaker, I remember last year when we came to this Assembly, we all stated that most of our Facilities have no Documents, not just this one; we have Naivasha Level Four, Molo and Mai Mahiu. Lands we have placed millions and millions, almost billions because in the Health Department, we are talking about a Budget of 38.1% of the total Budget of Nakuru County, and we do not have documentation for them, despite so much investment in them. In land matters there you get that we must get a clear way of working in that area. When you go to the rate at which

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children are born in that area, you get 25 to 50 voters per month. That is an area where people are so productive. The only way we can be fair with them is to ensure that the Facility there is well kept so that we can also engage these members of the community in a better way.

Mr. Speaker, We have brought so many Reports in this Assembly, and in the last meeting I think the Chairperson gave us direction that we shall not go to Curative Part but we shall now be on Preventive Part. We shall be visiting different Estates and see the conditions people are living in, that is in the Department of Public Health. The question that I ask myself is, when Members of this House visit these Hospitals or these clinics that they have in their Wards, what comes to their minds? I think apart from waiting for the headquarters projects on Hospitals, it is also prudent that we appropriate money from our Ward Kitty to face such calamities that befall our people.

Mr. Speaker, the situation in Nessuit is not a laughing matter. Those are humans that are living as though they are in the Medieval Age which cannot be allowed at this time and era. We ought to think about Facilities because if that is Nessuit, I wonder what another clinic in Keringet would look like because the further you go the worse it becomes. It would be very necessary that we now start being serious about how our people are living.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to support this Report and hope that we can get a clear indication of the way forward from the side of the Executive, and also from the area Members of the County Assembly because we have Kshs 1.65 billion that we normally approve for Wards. Where do these amounts go if not to help such people, who look like they are being led to their beds in the Clinics or Health Centers, or Hospitals in our County? It is good that we deal with such Reports because if you can have a wooden everything in a Clinic that is giving us 25 to 50 deliveries in a month, this is what is causing an uproar in the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, you find that we have a generation that does not understand what is happening with our Systems; and the generation has decided that things must go straight. Therefore, let us not deal with a problem when it gets out of hand and have such things be dealt with early enough. We cannot visit a Center and get a person staying in the same Hospital claiming that it is their land yet the County has mechanisms of ensuring that we get title deeds of all the lands that we possess as a County.

Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate, and I think the Chairperson and Deputy Chair for Lands should give us the status of the title deeds that we have as a County Government so that we know how many title deeds since we came in with the Government of H.E Susan Kihika have been obtained for public use in this regime. It will be only proper that we now shift our attention and possess our people's Institutions that we have because when we get out of this Assembly what will we be remembered for? What did we do? If we can have such a Health Facility at the extreme of Nessuit,

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what about the other parts in this great County of Nakuru? I wish to support this Report and ask Members to visit Health Centers in areas they come from.

The Speaker (Joel Karuri): Thank you. The Honorable Member from Keringet and Honorable Member from Kiptagich in that order.

Hon. William Mutai: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I support this Report and take this time to congratulate the Committee. I have some inputs concerning this Report; Nessuit has just been mentioned as a replica of a good number of Facilities we have in this County. Sincerely speaking, I want to start by saying that this has tainted our County, because if we still have these kind of Facilities at this point, I think something should be done. Much has been said about the shortcomings in the Facility and it being an old Facility that was started way back in 1950, and today we have this kind of a Report, I admit that there is a lot that should be done as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker, the Chair has just pinpointed that the Facilities are wooden, but most of the Facilities are wooden and to me, wood is not the problem because for sure even in our Assembly here you can see it so nicely and most of the parts are made up of wood; so wood is not the problem. The problem is the management. I think the management should be probed so that we can know why they have not taken steps to ensure that they are meeting the standards that are required. It has even been mentioned that they are using a common toilet. You are quite sure that even here in the Assembly we use common toilets but there is no problem with that. The problem is that the Chairman has said that they are in a dilapidated condition. Meaning that not much has been done to ensure that they are renovated, they are kept to meet the standards that are required. In your recommendation Mr. Chairperson, you did not mention that the management should do something to that effect to improve the conditions.

Mr. Speaker, another issue is concerning the efficiency of the staff. We have seen that Mr. Njoroge, the Nurse In-Charge arrived at 11, and that in itself shows that there is a lot of disconnect between the management and the staff; and anybody can decide on what to do. So someone coming to the Hospital sincerely at that time and he is in charge shows that there is a lot of laxity. My questions are, could the environment demoralize these people because you have talked about very poor. You have never seen the Chair Budget say that if it is so in Nessuit, what about Keringet? I want to tell you Mr. Chair that we are so much advanced. We are not at that level. We are doing well and our Facilities are not badly off. Do not compare us with this Hospital because sincerely speaking I think there is something amiss.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that going forward some more visits should be made to this Hospital. We need the persons concerned in the Ministry to go there and find out why such

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conditions are prevailing at this point. Otherwise, I support the Report and I congratulate the Committee for the good work they are doing.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you. The Member for Kiptagich.

Hon. Rose Chepkoech: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I just want to echo my team from the Health Committee. When we went to Nessuit we saw the rooms were not well-ventilated and they were extremely cold. We saw part of the ceiling was destroyed and as indicated, deliveries are 25 to 50 in a month. Were it not for the challenges, a hundred or a hundred and twenty could be made in a month.

Mr. Speaker, another thing is about the small Consultation Room which also serves as Injection Room, Examination Room, and Procedure Room for Out Patients. We saw one Nurse attending to them which was quite hectic. I am requesting the Honorable Member for Nessuit to do something. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you. The Member for Shabaab then the Member for Nakuru East.

Hon. David Wathiai: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to congratulate the Committee on Health for the good work they have done by giving us this Report. The Committee on Health has brought a lot of Reports here and I want to point out an issue that has been persistent in the Reports. This is about the issue of drugs. Every time they give us a Report you hear that there are no drugs in the Hospital, and maybe it is high time they looked into that issue. With the Digital World, the Committee can recommend the County Government to digitalise the issue of drugs in Dispensaries and connect all Dispensaries with the Headquarters and Drug Store so that from the point where the person in charge of drugs is sitting, he can monitor how the drugs are being used in all the Facilities in the County. That will assist in knowing when one Facility needs to be restocked and they will monitor the stock in the Facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this Report and also recommend all the Facilities in the County of Nakuru be digitalised and monitor the drugs. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): The Honorable Member for Shabaab maybe you need to bring a substantive Motion on that.

Hon. David Wathiai: I stand guided Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you for that proposal. The Honorable for Nakuru East.

Hon. Anthony Kanyere: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance. First and foremost, let me commend the Committee on Health for the good work that they have done. Indeed this

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Committee has been giving us business for this House. We have been discussing these Reports not once, I think this is like the 10th Report they are bringing to this House. Many issues have been repeating themselves, the issue of land ownership, the issue of drugs, and all that but in particular to this Report there is nothing to smile about. Many Findings and Recommendations from the Committee have been negative. The only positive Recommendation and Finding I have found on this Report is that the Facility has adequate water but other issues are wanting.

Mr. Speaker, it is high time now as the House we speeded up the recommendations on calling up the CEC and the CEOs to this House so that they can come and we have some commitments from the Executive side of the Government.

Mr. Speaker, it has been alluded by the Chairman Budget that we have Kshs 1.65 billion Ward Kitty to share but the Executive has a lot of money that they are supposed to take care of. This Facility was built in the 1950s and this is a clear indication of the failure of the system because when the Chairman of the Budget was talking, he was trying to blame it on the Member of that Ward. I want to commend the Member of Nessuit Ward because from the Findings and Recommendations that we have, the last Financial Year he allocated Kshs 4 million from the little money that he gets. I want to commend the Member of that Ward, and also say that the Executive should be serious on this issue because of late we have been seeing the CEC Health going around the Facilities.

Mr. Speaker, we need the Health Committee to call the CEC and let her give commitment as the Executive. As a County, we are so ashamed to have such a Facility in our County. It is high time the Executive took care of our people. We should not be gambling with our people's lives. We all have the mandate to deliver to our people and that is why we were elected, and why we are here to appropriate money. With those remarks, I want to support the Report and say that we now need to see action by the Executive Arm of Government. Thank you.

Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you. The Member for London.

Hon. Bernard Gatuso: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I take this opportunity to commend the Committee on Health for the good job that they have done, and I stand to support this Report. We have a thorny issue in terms of public lands. Now that the Lands Department is collecting data on public lands, we request them to not only collect data, but also to appropriate money to fence these Facilities because in the future, we may need to have lands for expansion of Facilities because of the growing population. It is said Health is Wealth. Also going by the Report, hygiene at the Facility is questionable, especially sanitation, and I believe there are issues that can be addressed within the Facilities and there those that may need Departments to intervene so that they can be done. We are supposed to look into that so that we can to raise the hygiene standards.

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Mr. Speaker, I believe the Facility Improvement Fund (FIF) which is supposed to buy medicines in Hospitals and do some improvements within the Hospital's; Facilities like PGH and others, I do not know whether they are properly utilised. It is high time that grabbed public is reverted back, and also have all public lands and properties fenced to avoid the costly exercise of reverting the same in future. I support the Report, thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): The Member for Barut.

Hon. Benard Kirui: Thank you Mr. Speaker for this opportunity. I stand to support the Committee on Health and also to congratulate the Chair for the good work they are doing.

Mr. Speaker you have heard many things about Nessuit Dispensaries, and I think Mheshimiwa from that Ward is going to sort out the mess in his Ward. What I wanted to say is that the Committee on Health has tabled so many Reports before this House, and we have never heard or seen anything being implemented by the Committee on Implementation; and I saw the Chair, *Mheshimiwa* Mwangi from Turi, but he has disappeared.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to address him to at least do something because it is now two years and we have never heard anything being implemented in terms of the Reports being tabled before this House. Something must be done so that we are sure things are going to run as we expect. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you Hon. Member for Barut. The Hon. Member from Rongai.

Hon. Doreen Jebiwott: Thank you Mr. Speaker and being a Member, I also want to comment on the work of Committee on Health. The Report from Nesuit Ward is not a good Report, and it is quite disturbing. I know when health issues come up, people who suffer most are women and the children. I have seen there is a laxity in service delivery where the Nursing Officer In-Charge is not quite committed to his work, which is quite worrying. I do not know Mr. Speaker sir whether even these Nurses are nurses motivated to do their work because some of them do not even report to work. Issues of supervision should be looked into.

Mr. Speaker, on Maternity Operations, you realise that these areas of Nessuit are most affected and they have quite a high number of early pregnancies and the Executive Arm of the Government should also look into it and facilitate Sensitization Forums on issues of early pregnancies in schools. It comes out clearly that the Executive should look into these matters seriously and help Wards that require support.

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Mr. Speaker, the issue of Maternity is quite disturbing. You realise that they have limited equipment and the number of women giving birth is quite high. So being a woman in this Assembly, I know this so well and it should be looked into. As a woman who has given birth, Mr. Speaker, it is a requirement of every Maternity to have the required equipment. I do support the sentiments of the Members that this Facility should be looked into and ensure that it has the required equipment to operate a Maternity and also as a Health Center. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you Hon. Member; the Member for Kapkures and then the last Member will be the Member for Kamara

Hon. Robert Ruto: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I also rise to support the Report and congratulate Committee on Health for the good work they have done. However, the Report they have given us is not good; it has tainted not only Nessuit Ward but all the Department of Health that services are not rendered to our people as intended to. It is very ironic Mr. Speaker that we spend 40 per cent of our Budget on Health and it is not felt in our Facilities. The issue of drugs has been a thorn in the flesh for several years now and I will urge the Department to keenly resolve this issue of drugs in our Facilities.

Mr. Speaker, the laxity of staff; the Nursing staff in Nessuit coming to work at 11 am means that most of the patients might lose their lives just waiting to be served in our health Facility. I will urge the Committee on Health to do such visits to several Facilities in our County because this might be just one of the very many Facilities which have laxity in service delivery to *Mwananchi*. Mr. Speaker, as the issue has risen that ownership Documents in Nessuit Health Centre, there is a problem with land ownership Documents. I wish that the Committee on Lands and the Executive Department on Lands to do thorough visits to all Facilities, not only Nessuit and ascertain that before we develop any Facility, we own the Facility fully. Our projects should have all title deeds before we develop. However, I support the Report Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you; the Member for Kamara,

Hon. John Maritim: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I also rise to support the Report and also to congratulate the Health Committee. They did a good Report and I believe that is the way to go.

Mr. Speaker, on the issue of Nessuit, the only thing that is marked in Nessuit is the signboard on the road; it is beautifully marked. I also believe the Member of Nessuit has been in this House for almost three terms. When you are a Member of the House and you do not own your area because that it seems, yet Financial Year the money has been allocated to this Facility. A wooded structure in the 21st century is a shame to us and to the Health Sector.

Mr. Speaker, I know *Mheshimiwa* Kajwang has done better than this and I believe there is no wooden structures in your Ward. *Asante sana* Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): The Hon. Member for Kaptembwa you have been mentioned. Do you want to clarify?

Hon. Peter Kajwang: Yes, I would want to clarify Mr. Speaker, and also give a small contribution to this Motion. I was one of the Members who visited this Facility and my findings and those of the Committee resonate to what Member for Kamara is saying. Nessuit has only one Health Centre in the entire Ward, and the Member of the County Assembly has been in this House for over 15 years. Mr. Speaker that is something we cannot just ignore. When these people go for public participation and prioritise projects they want to do for their Wards, how come we do not see Hospitals?

Mr. Speaker, it is a shame; a very big shame because as for me in Kaptembwa, our biggest property is the Health Centre, and Mr. Speaker I would invite you to come to Kaptembwa and visit Rhonda Clinic and you see for yourself the state of art of Health Centre that we have there. So, I think the community of Nessuit need to rise up to the occasion and realise that the biggest priority is the Health Sector and the Health Facility.

Mr. Speaker, this House loves the Member of the County Assembly but the people of Nessuit love him the most and they love him because they keep on electing him. So, in this conversation Mr. Speaker, the direct challenge goes to the Member of the County Assembly for Nessuit; that he needs to rise up to the occasion and let this kind of embarrassing Report never reappear again because I know that he has an allocation of over Kshs 20 million year in year out Mr. Speaker, and for 15 years you cannot even build a toilet.

Mr. Speaker I was there; you cannot stand being in that toilet for one minute. You will think that you have been exposed to a gas chamber, so bad you know. Mr. Speaker with these few remarks, that one is a direct challenge to the Member for County Assembly of Nessuit. Thank you Mr. Speaker, I beg to support the Report.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you the Member for Kaptembwa who also happens to be a Member of this Committee. So Chair you are going to have your time to respond. Before you come up, the Chairman Committee on Implementation; oh, he walked out. He was mentioned that is serious that he has not brought a Report to this House, whether it is true or not, it is only him and the Committee that can confirm that. Vice Chairperson Committee on Implementation?

A Member give this information to the Chair; that this is part of your work, you may be seated. The Reports that have been adopted on the floor of this House, you may not involve yourselves so

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much on issues of budgeting and use of Budgetary Allocations but for any Report that has been considered and adopted in this House, then it is your work to see that it is followed up and there is action, so now this House does not turn into a House of Reports and no action.

So the Hon. Chairperson Committee on Health Services, in the coming days you may also need to inform the House that the Health Sector, because it has been said it carries around 39 percent of the total budget, you will need to inform the Members of how this money is shared because it could be maybe a misconception that all the money goes to services and infrastructure but you will find that what really the Health Committee or Health Ministry or Department gets really is not all that. The money from the Exchequer you may need to check on that so that should there be need for this House to increase the amount of monies given to this Department that it be considered. So Chair you have your time to respond.

Hon. Njuguna Mwaura: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Allow me to respond to various concerns that have been raised by the Members starting with Member for Keringet where he alluded that there is no problem for Medics and Patients to interact in the same washrooms. Some of the diseases, you know that there are ways the environment itself can be contaminated and the Medics can pass those diseases to patients. Therefore, much of the time, according to the regulations of World Health Organisation (WHO), they are not supposed to interact; they are supposed to be in their own private rooms whereby they are able even to brush and scrub themselves so that when they go to attend to other patients without contamination. Once they contaminate their bodies, or clothes they are wearing, they will end up contaminating the whole population. That is the reason we said it is good for the Medics to have their own washrooms, their own toilets, and even their own hygiene standards should be up there so that they do not pass diseases to patients.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, that is the major reason and we would wish that Facility to have standard washrooms for Medics and Patients. Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member for Kapkures has said that we are tainting the image; Mr. Speaker our work is oversight and the day we are going to behave as if we have become Executive, then we have no business to be in this House, we are supposed to be home. Our work is to tell the Department, look you are supposed to improve here, and you are supposed to do this and that. Therefore, I would like to respond to the Member and request him that our work is not actually witch-hunting; we are doing what is mandated to us by the Constitution, and we are doing our work which we are paid to do.

Mr. Speaker, the Member for Nessuit has also been reprimanded by Hon. Kajwang and the rest. The Hon. Member perhaps has tried according to his own knowledge, but a lot ought to be done by every Member to make sure that their Wards' Facilities are upgraded and they are up to standard so that they can offer quality services.

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Mr. Speaker, allow me to tell these Members if you get sick, to some extent the first place where people would think to visit so that you can be given first-aid, is those to Facilities. Those Facilities do not only belong to the members you represent but they belong to all of us, and I usually request these Members even if you are not sick, you can go for dewormers in those Facilities.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I would request Hon. Kajwang because I know he usually goes to his Facility, to also request and influence other Members to be going to those Facilities just to see what is happening there so that even the Medics and those working in those Facilities can at least change. I would wish that going forward and if we have even a Supplementary Budget, let the Members check whatever is happening in their Facilities so that actually the status and the standards can improve.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say that in a while before even we go to the Supplementary Budget, we will be bringing a Report as far as the Budget for the Department is concerned so that the Members can see we do not have enough money. And mainly on drugs alone, I want to say the kind of the drugs we receive are very expensive. The kind of infrastructure that we have is generally very expensive, and even the medical technology that we run in our Facilities is high-tech and very expensive.

Mr. Speaker, what is constituting that 37.7 percent part of the Budget that we have, is not normally what we get from the Exchequer. It is what we are collecting from FIF; it is the money from those Facilities, the targets that those Facilities will be collecting is what constituting to 37.7 per cent of that Budget. Therefore, entirely we really need the support, and we request the Members to support us with funding so that we can improve.

Finally Mr. Speaker, are some issues of the Medics we found in those Facilities. They are no longer there; the NGOs that were supporting them but have withdrawn the support to the Counties; therefore, we are in critical times and we really need proper support so that we can employ enough staff who will offer services to the growing population of Nakuru.

Therefore Mr. Speaker I beg to request Members to pass this Report and the relevant Committee to take over this matter and ensure that this Report will be tabled back, not even going for the traditionally six months but immediately because this is a matter of calling the Department to come and they respond, and they give us the time frames as to when they are going to implement and then the Committee goes back there to countercheck whether the recommendations have been implemented. I beg to request the Members to support.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you I now proceed to put it to question

(The question proposed that this House adopts the Report of the Committee on Health Services on the visit to Nessuit Health Centre on 24th May 2023 laid on the table of the Assembly on Tuesday 20th February 2024 during the morning sitting).

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Honourable Members this House is adjourned to 2.30 pm this afternoon.

(The House rose at 11.15 pm)

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